

Reprinted March 21, 2007

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL No. 271

DIGEST OF SB 271 (Updated March 20, 2007 1:48 pm - DI 106)

Citations Affected: IC 23-14; IC 25-15; IC 30-2; IC 36-2.

Synopsis: Next of kin control of bodies in murder cases. Provides that if a coroner, after consultation with law enforcement, determines that there is a reasonable suspicion that a person committed murder, (Continued next page)

Effective: July 1, 2007.

Sipes, Miller, Lanane, Young R Michael, Drozda, Lewis, Becker

(HOUSE SPONSORS — LAWSON L, STEMLER, ULMER)

January 8, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Corrections, Criminal, and Civil Matters.

February 8, 2007, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass. February 12, 2007, read second time, ordered engrossed. Engrossed. February 19, 2007, read third time, passed. Yeas 46, nays 0.

HOUSE ACTION

February 26, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary. March 15, 2007, amended, reported — Do Pass. March 20, 2007, read second time, amended, ordered engrossed.



Digest Continued

voluntary manslaughter, or another criminal act resulting in the death of the decedent, the person is prohibited from making certain determinations concerning the remains of the decedent. Excludes certain criminal acts involving the operation of a motor vehicle. Requires the coroner, in consultation with law enforcement, to notify a cemetery owner, a crematory authority, or a seller of prepaid funeral and burial services that the person is barred from making the determinations concerning the remains of the decedent. Specifies the order of priority among individuals, including an individual who possesses a health care power of attorney, who are permitted to authorize the interment, entombment, or inurnment of the body or cremated remains of a deceased human. Provides that, when a coroner investigates a death, the coroner may hold the remains of the decedent until the investigation is concluded. Permits the parent or adult child of a decedent to receive a full autopsy report and, with certain exceptions, prohibits the parent or adult child from publicly disclosing the contents of the full autopsy report. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the interim study committee on criminal justice matters.)





First Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2007)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2006 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL No. 271

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning criminal law and procedure.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 23-14-31-26 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 26. (a) Except a
provided in subsection (c), the following persons, in the priority listed
have the right to serve as an authorizing agent:

- (1) An individual who possesses a health care power of attorney of the decedent, unless the power of attorney prohibits the individual from making plans for the disposition of the decedent's body.
- (2) The individual who was the spouse of the decedent at the time of the decedent's death.
- (2) (3) The decedent's surviving adult children. If more than one (1) adult child is surviving, any adult child who confirms in writing that the other adult children have been notified, unless the crematory authority receives a written objection to the cremation from another adult child.
- (3) (4) The decedent's surviving parent. If the decedent is survived by both parents, either parent may serve as the authorizing agent

ES 271—LS 0007

6

7 8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17









1	unless the crematory authority receives a written objection to the
2	cremation from the other parent.
3	(4) (5) The individual in the next degree of kinship under
4	IC 29-1-2-1 to inherit the estate of the decedent. If more than one
5	(1) individual of the same degree is surviving, any person of that
6	degree may serve as the authorizing agent unless the crematory
7	authority receives a written objection to the cremation from one
8	(1) or more persons of the same degree.
9	(5) (6) In the case of an indigent or other individual whose final
10	disposition is the responsibility of the state or township, the
11	following may serve as the authorizing agent:
12	(A) If none of the persons identified in subdivisions (1)
13	through (4) (5) of this section are available:
14	(i) a public administrator, including a responsible township
15	trustee or the trustee's designee; or
16	(ii) the coroner.
17	(B) A state appointed guardian.
18	However, an indigent decedent may not be cremated if a
19	surviving family member objects to the cremation or if cremation
20	would be contrary to the religious practices of the deceased
21	individual as expressed by the individual or the individual's
22	family.
23	(6) (7) In the absence of any person under subdivisions (1)
24	through (5), (6), any person willing to assume the responsibility
25	as the authorizing agent, as specified in this article.
26	(b) When a body part of a nondeceased individual is to be cremated,
27	a representative of the institution that has arranged with the crematory
28	authority to cremate the body part may serve as the authorizing agent.
29	(c) If:
30	(1) the death of the decedent appears to have been the result
31	of:
32	(A) murder (IC 35-42-1-1);
33	(B) voluntary manslaughter (IC 35-42-1-3); or
34	(C) another criminal act, if the death does not result from
35	the operation of a vehicle; and
36	(2) the coroner, in consultation with the law enforcement
37	agency investigating the death of the decedent, determines
38	that there is a reasonable suspicion that a person described in
39	subsection (a) committed the offense;
40	the person referred to in subdivision (2) may not serve as the
41	authorizing agent.
42	(d) The coroner, in consultation with the law enforcement



1	agency investigating the death of the decedent, shall inform the	
2	crematory authority of the determination referred to in subsection	
3	(c)(2).	
4	SECTION 2. IC 23-14-55-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS	
5	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 2. (a) Except as	
6	provided in subsection (d), the owner of a cemetery is authorized to	
7	inter, entomb, or inurn the body or cremated remains of a deceased	
8	human upon the receipt of a written authorization of an individual who	
9	professes either of the following:	
10	(1) To be (in the priority listed) one (1) of the following:	
11	(A) surviving spouse; or	
12	(B) surviving child, parent, or next of kin;	
13	of the decedent; or	
14	(A) An individual who possesses a health care power of	
15	attorney of the decedent, unless the power of attorney	
16	prohibits the individual from making plans for the	
17	disposition of the decedent's body.	
18	(B) The individual who was the spouse of the decedent at	
19	the time of the decedent's death.	
20	(C) The decedent's surviving adult child. If more than one	
21	(1) adult child is surviving, any adult child who confirms in	
22	writing that the other adult children have been notified,	
23	unless the owner of the cemetery receives a written	
24	objection to the disposition from another adult child.	_
25	(D) The decedent's surviving parent. If the decedent is	
26	survived by both parents, either parent may serve as the	
27	authorizing agent unless the cemetery owner receives a	
28	written objection to the disposition from the other parent.	T
29	(E) The individual in the next degree of kinship under	
30	IC 29-1-2-1 to inherit the estate of the decedent. If more	
31	than one (1) individual of the same degree of kinship is	
32	surviving, any person of that degree may serve as the	
33	authorizing agent unless the cemetery owner receives a	
34	written objection to the disposition from one (1) or more	
35	persons of the same degree of kinship.	
36	(2) To have acquired the right to control the disposition of the	
37	deceased human body or cremated remains.	
38	but The owner of a cemetery may accept the authorization of an	
39	individual only if all other individuals of the same priority or a higher	
40	priority (according to the priority listing in this subsection) are	
41	deceased, are barred from authorizing the disposition of the	
42	deceased human body or cremated remains under subsection (d),	



1	or are physically or mentally incapacitated from exercising the	
2	authorization, and the incapacity is certified to by a qualified medical	
3	doctor.	
4	(b) A cemetery owner is not liable in any action for making an	
5	interment, entombment, or inurnment under a written authorization	
6	described in subsection (a) unless the cemetery owner had actual notice	
7	that the representation made under subsection (a) by the individual who	
8	issued the written authorization was untrue.	
9	(c) An action may not be brought against the owner of a cemetery	_
10	relating to the remains of a human that have been left in the possession	
11	of the cemetery owner without permanent interment, entombment, or	
12	inurnment for a period of three (3) years, unless the cemetery owner	
13	has entered into a written contract for the care of the remains.	
14	(d) If:	
15	(1) the death of the decedent appears to have been the result	
16	of:	4
17	(A) murder (IC 35-42-1-1);	
18	(B) voluntary manslaughter (IC 35-42-1-3); or	
19	(C) another criminal act, if the death does not result from	
20	the operation of a vehicle; and	
21	(2) the coroner, in consultation with the law enforcement	
22	agency investigating the death of the decedent, determines	
23	that there is a reasonable suspicion that a person described in	
24	subsection (a) committed the offense;	
25	the person referred to in subdivision (2) may not authorize the	
26	disposition of the decedent's body or cremated remains.	
27	(e) The coroner, in consultation with the law enforcement	1
28	agency investigating the death of the decedent, shall inform the	1
29	cemetery owner of the determination referred to in subsection	
30	(d)(2).	
31	SECTION 3. IC 25-15-9-18 IS AMENDED TO READ AS	
32	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 18. (a) Except as	
33	provided in subsection (b), the following persons, in the order of	
34	priority indicated, have the authority to designate the manner, type, and	
35	selection of the final disposition and interment of human remains:	
36	(1) An individual who possesses a health care power of	
37	attorney of the decedent, unless the power of attorney	
38	prohibits the individual from making plans for the disposition	
39	of the decedent's body.	
40	(1) (2) The decedent's surviving individual who was the spouse	
41	of the decedent at the time of the decedent's death.	
12	(2) (3) The decedent's surviving adult child. or children. However,	



1	if the children cannot agree on the manner of final disposition, the
2	personal representative of the decedent's estate. If more than one
3	(1) adult child is surviving, any adult child who confirms in
4	writing that the other adult children have been notified, unless
5	the licensed funeral director or licensed funeral home receives
6	a written objection from another adult child.
7	(3) (4) The decedent's surviving parents. parent. If the decedent
8	is survived by both parents, either parent has the authority
9	unless the licensed funeral director or licensed funeral home
10	receives a written objection from the other parent.
11	(4) The personal representative of the decedent's estate.
12	(5) The individual in the next degree of kinship under
13	IC 29-1-2-1 to inherit the estate of the decedent. If more than
14	one (1) individual of the same degree survives, any person of
15	that degree has the authority unless the licensed funeral
16	director or licensed funeral home receives a written objection
17	from one (1) or more persons of the same degree.
18	(6) In the case of an indigent or other individual whose final
19	disposition is the responsibility of the state or township, the
20	following may serve as the authorizing agent:
21	(A) If none of the persons identified in subdivisions (1)
22	through (5) is available:
23	(i) a public administrator, including a responsible
24	township trustee or the trustee's designee; or
25	(ii) the coroner.
26	(B) A state appointed guardian.
27	(b) If:
28	(1) the death of the decedent appears to have been the result
29	of:
30	(A) murder (IC 35-42-1-1);
31	(B) voluntary manslaughter (IC 35-42-1-3); or
32	(C) another criminal act, if the death does not result from
33	the operation of a vehicle; and
34	(2) the coroner, in consultation with the law enforcement
35	agency investigating the death of the decedent, determines
36	that there is a reasonable suspicion that a person described in
37	subsection (a) committed the offense;
38	the person referred to in subdivision (2) may not authorize or
39	designate the manner, type, or selection of the final disposition and
40	internment of human remains.
41	(c) The coroner, in consultation with the law enforcement
42	agency investigating the death of the decedent, shall inform the



1	crematory authority of the determination of the person referred to
2	in subsection (b)(2).
3	SECTION 4. IC 30-2-13-23 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
4	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 23. (a) A contract is
5	invalid if the contract allows the purchaser the right to:
6	(1) convert, substitute, or exchange the purchase of burial rights
7	for the purchase of services or merchandise;
8	(2) free services or merchandise in exchange for the purchase of
9	other services or merchandise; or
10	(3) receive cash or gifts, other than burial rights and services and
11	merchandise, with a value of more than fifty dollars (\$50) as an
12	inducement to purchase a contract.
13	(b) A contract is unenforceable if:
14	(1) the contract obligates the seller to provide prepaid services
15	or merchandise for a named individual in conjunction with
16	the death, burial, or final disposition of the individual;
17	(2) the purchaser under the contract is described in section
8	9(b)(4) of this chapter;
19	(3) the death of the named individual appears to have been the
20	result of:
21	(A) murder (IC 35-42-1-1);
22	(B) voluntary manslaughter (IC 35-42-1-3); or
23	(C) another criminal act, if the death does not result from
24	the operation of a vehicle; and
25	(4) the coroner, in consultation with the law enforcement
26	agency investigating the death of the decedent, determines
27	that there is a reasonable suspicion that the purchaser
28	referred to in subdivision (2) committed the offense.
29	The coroner, in consultation with the law enforcement agency
30	investigating the death of the decedent, shall inform the seller of
31 32	the determination of the purchaser described in subdivision (4). SECTION 5. IC 36-2-14-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
33	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 6. (a) Whenever the
, 5 34	coroner is notified that a person in the county:
35	(1) has died from violence;
,5 86	(2) has died by casualty;
37	(3) has died when apparently in good health;
38	(4) has died in an apparently suspicious, unusual, or unnatural
, s 89	manner; or
10	(5) has been found dead;
11 11	he the coroner shall, before the scene of the death is disturbed, notify
12	a law enforcement agency having jurisdiction in that area. The agency
_	a la chief coment agency having jurisdiction in that area. The agency



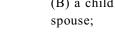
shall assist the coroner in conducting an investigation of how the person died and a medical investigation of the cause of death. The coroner may hold the remains of the decedent until the investigation of how the person died and the medical investigation of the cause of death are concluded.

- (b) The coroner shall file with the person in charge of interment a coroner's certificate of death within seventy-two (72) hours after being notified of the death. If the cause of death is not established with reasonable certainty within seventy-two (72) hours, the coroner shall file with the person in charge of interment a coroner's certificate of death, with the cause of death designated as "deferred pending further action". As soon as he the coroner determines the cause of death, the coroner shall file a supplemental report indicating his the exact findings with the local health officer having jurisdiction, who shall make it part of his the official records.
- (c) If this section applies, the body and the scene of death may not be disturbed until the coroner has photographed them in the manner that most fully discloses how the person died. However, a coroner or law enforcement officer may order a body to be moved before photographs are taken if the position or location of the body unduly interferes with activities carried on where the body is found, but the body may not be moved from the immediate area and must be moved without substantially destroying or altering the evidence present.
- (d) When acting under this section, if the coroner considers it necessary to have an autopsy performed, is required to perform an autopsy under subsection (f), or is requested by the prosecuting attorney of the county to perform an autopsy, the coroner shall employ a physician:
 - (1) certified by the American board of pathology; or
 - (2) holding an unlimited license to practice medicine in Indiana and acting under the direction of a physician certified by the American board of pathology;

to perform the autopsy. The physician performing the autopsy shall be paid a fee of at least fifty dollars (\$50) from the county treasury. A coroner may employ the services of the medical examiner system, provided for in IC 4-23-6-6, when an autopsy is required, as long as this subsection is met.

- (e) If:
 - (1) at the request of:
 - (A) the decedent's spouse;
- (B) a child of the decedent, if the decedent does not have a

ES 271-LS 6087/DI 106+





1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

2.8

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42









1	(C) a parent of the decedent, if the decedent does not have a
2	spouse or children;
3	(D) a brother or sister of the decedent, if the decedent does not
4	have a spouse, children, or parents; or
5	(E) a grandparent of the decedent, if the decedent does not
6	have a spouse, children, parents, brothers, or sisters;
7	(2) in any death, where two (2) or more witnesses who
8	corroborate the circumstances surrounding death are present; and
9	(3) two (2) physicians who are licensed to practice medicine in
10	the state and who have made separate examinations of the
11	decedent certify the same cause of death in an affidavit within
12	twenty-four (24) hours after death;
13	an autopsy need not be performed. The affidavits shall be filed with the
14	circuit court clerk.
15	(f) A county coroner may not certify the cause of death in the case
16	of the sudden and unexpected death of a child who is at least one (1)
17	week old and not more than three (3) years old unless an autopsy is
18	performed at county expense. However, a coroner may certify the cause
19	of death of a child described in this subsection without the performance
20	of an autopsy if subsection (e) applies to the death of the child.
21	(g) After consultation with the law enforcement agency
22	investigating the death of a decedent, the coroner shall do the
2223	investigating the death of a decedent, the coroner shall do the following:
23	following:
23 24	following: (1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under
23 24 25	following: (1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with
23 24 25 26	following: (1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the
23 24 25 26 27	following: (1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	following: (1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under IC 23-14-55-2(d) from authorizing the disposition of the body
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	following: (1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under IC 23-14-55-2(d) from authorizing the disposition of the body or cremated remains of the decedent because the coroner
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	following: (1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under IC 23-14-55-2(d) from authorizing the disposition of the body or cremated remains of the decedent because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-55-2(d)(2) in
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	following: (1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under IC 23-14-55-2(d) from authorizing the disposition of the body or cremated remains of the decedent because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-55-2(d)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent.
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	following: (1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under IC 23-14-55-2(d) from authorizing the disposition of the body or cremated remains of the decedent because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-55-2(d)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (3) Inform a seller of prepaid services or merchandise if a
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35	following: (1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under IC 23-14-55-2(d) from authorizing the disposition of the body or cremated remains of the decedent because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-55-2(d)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (3) Inform a seller of prepaid services or merchandise if a person's contract is unenforceable under IC 30-2-13-23(b)
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36	following: (1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under IC 23-14-55-2(d) from authorizing the disposition of the body or cremated remains of the decedent because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-55-2(d)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (3) Inform a seller of prepaid services or merchandise if a person's contract is unenforceable under IC 30-2-13-23(b) because the coroner made the determination under
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37	(1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under IC 23-14-55-2(d) from authorizing the disposition of the body or cremated remains of the decedent because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-55-2(d)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (3) Inform a seller of prepaid services or merchandise if a person's contract is unenforceable under IC 30-2-13-23(b) because the coroner made the determination under IC 30-2-13-23(b)(4) in connection with the death of the
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38	(1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under IC 23-14-55-2(d) from authorizing the disposition of the body or cremated remains of the decedent because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-55-2(d)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (3) Inform a seller of prepaid services or merchandise if a person's contract is unenforceable under IC 30-2-13-23(b) because the coroner made the determination under IC 30-2-13-23(b)(4) in connection with the death of the decedent.
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39	(1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under IC 23-14-55-2(d) from authorizing the disposition of the body or cremated remains of the decedent because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-55-2(d)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (3) Inform a seller of prepaid services or merchandise if a person's contract is unenforceable under IC 30-2-13-23(b) because the coroner made the determination under IC 30-2-13-23(b)(4) in connection with the death of the decedent. SECTION 6. IC 36-2-14-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.141-2006,
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40	(1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under IC 23-14-55-2(d) from authorizing the disposition of the body or cremated remains of the decedent because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-55-2(d)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (3) Inform a seller of prepaid services or merchandise if a person's contract is unenforceable under IC 30-2-13-23(b) because the coroner made the determination under IC 30-2-13-23(b)(4) in connection with the death of the decedent. SECTION 6. IC 36-2-14-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.141-2006, SECTION 113, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39	(1) Inform a crematory authority if a person is barred under IC 23-14-31-26(c) from serving as the authorizing agent with respect to the cremation of the decedent's body because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (2) Inform a cemetery owner if a person is barred under IC 23-14-55-2(d) from authorizing the disposition of the body or cremated remains of the decedent because the coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-55-2(d)(2) in connection with the death of the decedent. (3) Inform a seller of prepaid services or merchandise if a person's contract is unenforceable under IC 30-2-13-23(b) because the coroner made the determination under IC 30-2-13-23(b)(4) in connection with the death of the decedent. SECTION 6. IC 36-2-14-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.141-2006,



1	coroner is required to make available for public inspection and copying
2	the following:
3	(1) The name, age, address, sex, and race of the deceased.
4	(2) The address where the dead body was found, or if there is no
5	address the location where the dead body was found and, if
6	different, the address where the death occurred, or if there is no
7	address the location where the death occurred.
8	(3) The name of the agency to which the death was reported and
9	the name of the person reporting the death.
10	(4) The name of any public official or governmental employee
11	present at the scene of the death and the name of the person
12	certifying or pronouncing the death.
13	(5) Information regarding an autopsy (requested or performed)
14	limited to the date, the person who performed the autopsy, where
15	the autopsy was performed, and a conclusion as to:
16	(A) the probable cause of death;
17	(B) the probable manner of death; and
18	(C) the probable mechanism of death.
19	(6) The location to which the body was removed, the person
20	determining the location to which the body was removed, and the
21	authority under which the decision to remove the body was made.
22	(7) The records required to be filed by a coroner under section 6
23	of this chapter and the verdict and the written report required
24	under section 10 of this chapter.
25	(b) A county coroner or a coroner's deputy who receives an
26	investigatory record from a law enforcement agency shall treat the
27	investigatory record with the same confidentiality as the law
28	enforcement agency would treat the investigatory record.
29	(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a coroner
30	shall make available a full copy of an autopsy report, other than a
31	photograph, video recording, or audio recording of the autopsy, upon
32	the written request of the a parent of the decedent, an adult child of
33	the decedent, a next of kin of the decedent, or of an insurance
34	company investigating a claim arising from the death of the individual
35	upon whom the autopsy was performed. The A parent of the
36	decedent, an adult child of the decedent, a next of kin of the
37	decedent, and an insurance company is are prohibited from publicly
38	disclosing any information contained in the report beyond that
39	information that may otherwise be disclosed by a coroner under this
40	section. This prohibition does not apply to information disclosed in

communications in conjunction with the investigation, settlement, or



40 41

42

payment of the claim.

	(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a coroner	1
	1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1	2
		3
	1	4
		5
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	6
	()	7
	,	8
	(2) 1111 111111111 21 1111 1111111111111	9
	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	10
	in connection with a division's review of the circumstances surrounding	11
		12
	through a division at the time of the individual's death.	13
_		



SENATE MOTION

Madam President: I move that Senator Miller be added as second author of Senate Bill 271.

SIPES

SENATE MOTION

Madam President: I move that Senators Young R Michael and Drozda be added as coauthors of Senate Bill 271.

SIPES

SENATE MOTION

Madam President: I move that Senator Lanane be added as third author of Senate Bill 271.

SIPES

SENATE MOTION

Madam President: I move that Senator Lewis be added as coauthor of Senate Bill 271.

SIPES

COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Corrections, Criminal, and Civil Matters, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 271, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Page 2, line 29, delete "causing suicide (IC 35-42-1-2);".

Page 2, line 30, delete "(C)".

Page 2, run in lines 29 through 30.

ES 271—LS 6087/DI 106+









Page 2, line 30, after "(IC 35-42-1-3);" insert "or

(C) another criminal act, if the death does not result from the operation of a vehicle; and".

Page 2, delete lines 31 through 35.

Page 2, line 36, after "(2)" insert "the coroner, in consultation with the law enforcement agency investigating the death of the decedent, determines that there is a reasonable likelihood that".

Page 2, line 36, delete "has been arrested in" and insert "committed the offense;".

Page 2, delete line 37.

Page 4, line 12, delete "causing suicide (IC 35-42-1-2);".

Page 4, line 13, delete "(C)".

Page 4, run in lines 12 through 13.

Page 4, line 13, after "(IC 35-42-1-3);" insert "or

(C) another criminal act, if the death does not result from the operation of a vehicle; and".

Page 4, delete lines 14 through 18.

Page 4, line 19, after "(2)" insert "the coroner, in consultation with the law enforcement agency investigating the death of the decedent, determines that there is a reasonable likelihood that".

Page 4, line 19, delete "has been arrested in" and insert "committed the offense;".

Page 4, delete line 20.

Page 4, between lines 26 and 27, begin a new paragraph and insert: "SECTION 3. IC 25-15-9-18 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 18. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the following persons, in the order of priority indicated, have the authority to designate the manner, type, and selection of the final disposition and interment of human remains:

- (1) The decedent's surviving individual who was the spouse of the decedent at the time of the decedent's death.
- (2) The decedent's surviving adult child. or children. However, if the children cannot agree on the manner of final disposition, the personal representative of the decedent's estate. If more than one
- (1) adult child is surviving, any adult child who confirms in writing that the other adult children have been notified, unless the licensed funeral director or licensed funeral home receives a written objection from another adult child.
- (3) The decedent's surviving parents. parent. If the decedent is survived by both parents, either parent has the authority unless the licensed funeral director or licensed funeral home receives a written objection from the other parent.







- (4) The personal representative of the decedent's estate.
- (4) The individual in the next degree of kinship under IC 29-1-2-1 to inherit the estate of the decedent. If more than one (1) individual of the same degree survives, any person of that degree has the authority unless the licensed funeral director or licensed funeral home receives a written objection from one (1) or more persons of the same degree.
- (5) In the case of an indigent or other individual whose final disposition is the responsibility of the state or township, the following may serve as the authorizing agent:
 - (A) If none of the persons identified in subdivisions (1) through (4) is available:
 - (i) a public administrator, including a responsible township trustee or the trustee's designee; or
 - (ii) the coroner.
 - (B) A state appointed guardian.
- (b) If:
 - (1) the death of the decedent appears to have been the result of:
 - (A) murder (IC 35-42-1-1);
 - (B) voluntary manslaughter (IC 35-42-1-3); or
 - (C) another criminal act, if the death does not result from the operation of a vehicle; and
 - (2) the coroner, in consultation with the law enforcement agency investigating the death of the decedent, determines that there is a reasonable likelihood that a person described in subsection (a) committed the offense;

the person referred to in subdivision (2) may not authorize or designate the manner, type, or selection of the final disposition and internment of human remains.

(c) The coroner, in consultation with the law enforcement agency investigating the death of the decedent, shall inform the crematory authority of the arrest of the person referred to in subsection (b)(2)."

Page 5, line 4, delete "causing suicide (IC 35-42-1-2);".

Page 5, line 5, delete "(C)".

Page 5, run in lines 4 through 5.

Page 5, line 5, after "(IC 35-42-1-3);" insert "or

(C) another criminal act, if the death does not result from the operation of a vehicle; and".

Page 5, delete lines 6 through 10.

Page 5, line 11, after "(4)" insert "the coroner, in consultation with









the law enforcement agency investigating the death of the decedent, determines that there is a reasonable likelihood that".

Page 5, line 11, delete "has been" and insert "committed the offense.".

Page 5, delete line 12.

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to SB 271 as introduced.)

STEELE, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0.

SENATE MOTION

Madam President: I move that Senator Becker be added as coauthor of Senate Bill 271.

SIPES

COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred Senate Bill 271, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 5, after "(1)" insert "An individual who possesses a health care power of attorney of the decedent.

(2)".

Page 1, line 7, strike "(2)" and insert "(3)".

Page 1, line 12, strike "(3)" and insert "(4)".

Page 1, line 16, strike "(4)" and insert "(5)".

Page 2, line 5, strike "(5)" and insert "(6)".

Page 2, line 9, strike "(4)" and insert "(5)".

Page 2, line 19, strike "(6)" and insert "(7)".

Page 2, line 20, strike "(5)," and insert "(6),".

Page 2, line 34, delete "likelihood" and insert "suspicion".

Page 2, line 40, delete "arrest of the person" and insert "determination".

ES 271—LS 6087/DI 106+









Page 3, line 6, after "listed)" insert "one (1) of".

Page 3, line 10, after "(A)" insert "An individual who possesses a health care power of attorney of the decedent.

(B)".

Page 3, line 12, delete "(B)" and insert "(C)".

Page 3, line 17, delete "(C)" and insert "(D)".

Page 3, line 21, delete "(D)" and insert "(E)".

Page 4, line 15, delete "likelihood" and insert "suspicion".

Page 4, line 21, delete "arrest of a person" and insert "determination".

Page 4, between lines 27 and 28, begin a new line block indented and insert:

"(1) An individual who possesses a health care power of attorney of the decedent.".

Page 4, line 28, strike "(1)" and insert "(2)".

Page 4, line 30, strike "(2)" and insert "(3)".

Page 4, line 37, strike "(3)" and insert "(4)".

Page 4, line 42, delete "(4)" and insert "(5)".

Page 5, line 6, delete "(5)" and insert "(6)".

Page 5, line 10, delete "(4)" and insert "(5)".

Page 5, line 24, delete "likelihood" and insert "suspicion".

Page 5, line 31, delete "arrest" and insert "determination".

Page 6, line 15, delete "likelihood" and insert "suspicion".

Page 6, line 19, delete "arrest" and insert "determination".

Page 8, delete line 15 and insert "coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-31-26(c)(2)".

Page 8, line 16, delete "IC 23-14-31-26(c)(1)".

Page 8, line 20, delete "person has" and insert "coroner made the determination under IC 23-14-55-2-(d)(2)".

Page 8, line 21, delete "been arrested for a crime set forth in IC 23-14-55-2(d)(1)".

Page 8, line 25, delete "person has been arrested for a crime set forth in" and insert "coroner made the determination under IC 30-2-13-23(b)(4)".

Page 8, line 26, delete "IC 23-14-55-2(b)(3)".

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to SB 271 as printed February 9, 2007.)

LAWSON L, Chair

Committee Vote: yeas 11, nays 0.



C





y

HOUSE MOTION

Mr. Speaker: I move that Engrossed Senate Bill 271 be amended to read as follows:

Page 1, line 6, delete "decedent." and insert "decedent, unless the power of attorney prohibits the individual from making plans for the disposition of the decedent's body.".

Page 3, line 13, delete "decedent." and insert "decedent, unless the power of attorney prohibits the individual from making plans for the disposition of the decedent's body.".

Page 4, line 33, delete "decedent." and insert "decedent, unless the power of attorney prohibits the individual from making plans for the disposition of the decedent's body.".

(Reference is to ESB 271 as printed March 16, 2007.)

FOLEY





y

